

Blackburn
Rural District Council



ANNUAL
REPORT
FOR 1948



C. M. BRADLEY,
Medical Officer of Health

A. W. CRAVEN,
Sanitary Inspector

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1948.

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Vice-Chairman:

D. SMITH, Esq., J.P.

Chairman of the Health Committee:

R. YATES, Esq., J.P.

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Staff.

Medical Officer of Health:

C. M. BRADLEY, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

A. W. CRAVEN, M.S.I.A.

Certificate, Meat Inspector.

Certificate, Smoke Inspector.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector: J. K. HUNT.

Assistant—Housing Survey: J. G. BUTTERWORTH.

Rodent Operative: J. COLLINGE.

42, Wellington Street (St. John's),
Blackburn.

August, 1949.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BLACKBURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

We beg to present the following report on the work of your Health Department during the year 1948.

Two major changes in Health Legislation during the year were the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act. 1946, and the National Assistance Act. 1948.

As will be seen from the Report on Rural Housing many working class dwellings are in a state of disrepair or have serious sanitary defects. It is the practice to require the carrying out of urgent repairs under the Public Health and Housing Acts, but of necessity these works have been limited to those which must be regarded as immediately essential.

We take this opportunity of expressing thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their help and encouragement and to the staff for their loyal co-operation.

Yours obediently,

C. M. BRADLEY, *Medical Officer of Health.*
ARTHUR W. CRAVEN, *Sanitary Inspector.*

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.



Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,472
Rateable Value (1st April, 1948)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£80,541
Estimated Product of 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£321
Population, Census 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,232
Resident Population, mid-1948								
(Registrar-General's Estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,700
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.0
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.9

Blackburn Rural District lies to the North, West and South of the County Borough of Blackburn and its population of 12,700 live in two different types of community. The large parishes adjacent to Blackburn are urban in character, although each still retains its separate community life. The rest of the area is dotted with small villages truly rural in type. Most of the area lies in the Ribble Valley and is given over to pasture and meadowland.

The Ordnance Datum varies from 150 to 1,050.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are agriculture, cotton weaving and spinning, paper making and glazed brickmaking.

Vital Statistics.

There were 139 live births and one still birth registered during 1948 and 127 deaths from all causes. The birthrate has dropped from 13.4 to 10.9 per thousand population and is well below the rate for England and Wales (17.9). The deathrate has fallen from 12.4 to 10.0 per thousand population and compares with the rate for England and Wales which is 10.8.

It is gratifying to note that there were only 2 deaths of children under 1 year (congenital 1 and accidental 1) and no deaths from puerperal causes, further that 88% of all deaths took place at the age of 65 and over, 51% at 75 or over and 8% at 85 or over.

The main causes of death were heart disease and cancer which showed a slight decrease on 1947.

Infectious Disease.

There were 177 cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year, and the largest number were of Measles (47) Pneumonia (47) and Scarlet Fever (42). 16 cases of Infectious Disease were removed to hospitals of neighbouring towns, namely:— Blackburn (4) Bury (6) Fulwood (3) Bolton (2) Preston (1).

SCARLET FEVER.

Scarlet Fever was chiefly a disease of school life, over half the cases occurring between the ages of 5 and 15. All cases were mild in type and there were no deaths. 14 cases were treated in hospital.

MEASLES and WHOOPING COUGH.

Measles affected all ages up to the age of 10 while Whooping Cough was more predominantly a disease of the pre-school years.

DIPHTHERIA.

Two cases of Diphtheria occurred in one of the institutions in the area.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 18 new cases notified in 1948 compared with 21 in 1947. 12 of these were pulmonary in type, 9 of them being male patients. There were 4 deaths in 1948 compared with 5 in 1947, and all were pulmonary cases. At the end of December, there were 56 cases on the register, an increase of 8 since the end of 1947.

FOOD POISONING.

16 cases of Food Poisoning arising from a salmonella infection were notified during 1948. This outbreak occurred at one of the institutions in the area.

Food poisoning is a wholly preventable disease and it is regrettable that the standard of cleanliness in the handling of food leaves much to be desired in this country.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SCHEME.

During the first 6 months of 1948 20 children under 5 years of age were given a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria. As from the 5th July the County Council took over the administration of the Immunisation Scheme.

The percentage of the child population of the district which was known to have been immunised against Diphtheria to June 30th, 1948, was:—

Pre School Age—Under 5 years	...	...	...	20%
School Age—5 to 15 years	...	...	...	50%
Total under 15 years	...	...	...	39%

The percentages given above represent those children which are known to have been immunised and for which this authority or

the Child Welfare Authority have paid, but there is no doubt whatever that if all those children who have been immunised privately could be taken into account, the percentage would be in the region of 75% of the under 5 years, and 90% of the 5 to 15 age group.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply

Most of the Blackburn Rural District is within the "Area of Supply" of the County Borough of Blackburn. The Parish of Eccles-hill is served by the Borough of Darwen and Belthorn village in the parish of Yate and Pickup Bank is served by the Urban District of Oswaldtwistle. Part of the parish of Mellor is served by the Mellor Water Company which obtains water from boreholes and from the Preston Rural District. The Mellor Water Company continues to experience difficulty in maintaining an adequate supply and some houses in Mellor are without water at certain times during the day.

A scheme for the supply of water to parts of the parishes of Mellor and Ramsgreave was prepared by the Council's Consultant Engineer during 1947. Water was to be obtained by extending the water mains of the Blackburn Corporation. As negotiations towards fulfilment of this scheme were incomplete at the close of 1948 and because of the nearing completion of 22 Council Houses at Mellor, tenders were invited for the laying of mains to the Council's Housing Estate from the mains of the Preston Rural District Council. The mains of this temporary scheme would form part of the comprehensive scheme for Mellor.

Most of the piped supplies in the district are conveyed to a point over the kitchen sink and there is only one standpipe in the area, that is in Barker Lane, Mellor. This pipe supplies approximately 23 houses and was installed during 1945 as a temporary arrangement pending extensions of the Blackburn Corporation mains within that area.

8 samples of water were taken during the year from wells or springs and submitted for bacteriological examination. 3 of the samples were reported as satisfactory. The remaining 5 samples showed evidence of faecal contamination and steps were taken to improve these supplies, in the meantime the persons using the water were advised to boil or use alternative wells.

No samples of water were obtained for bacteriological examination by this Council from the mains of statutory undertakings.

It will be seen from the figures in the table appended to this report that only the parish of Tockholes is without a supply of water from public mains. Tockholes is a scattered parish and being at a considerable elevation cannot be supplied by gravity from either the Blackburn or Darwen authorities in whose statutory areas the parish is situated. About one third of the dwellings in the parish are unfit for human habitation and quite a number of the dwellings comprise a gathering of hutments erected after the 1914-1918 war.

HOUSING.

In common with all housing authorities in the country, applications for council houses far exceed the number erected. On the 31st December, 1948, there were 106 council houses in the area. The number of applicants on the waiting list at the end of the year was 234 and the number of houses in course of construction was 44. The completion of the housing survey of the district disclosed 451 (16.87%) working class dwellings, out of a total of 2673 surveyed, as being unfit for habitation and beyond repair at a reasonable expense. It will be seen therefore by adding the number of unfit houses to the number of applicants for new houses that there are 685 inadequately housed families. What this figure represents in terms of human unhappiness and chronic ill-health can only be surmised.

The enforced neglect of the repair of dwelling houses due to post-war conditions is now very apparent. The housing survey disclosed 847 (31.69%) dwellings with minor defects and 737 (27.57%) dwellings requiring repairs or structural alterations.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are seven separate Sewage Disposal Works in the area serving the major parts of the parishes of Livesey, Billington, Pleasington and Wilpshire and parts of Salesbury, Clayton-le-Dale, Yate Bank and Balderstone. Langho Colony is also served by these works. The method of treatment adopted is by preliminary sedimentation, septic tanks and sprinkler filtration or by land irrigation.

A comprehensive scheme for extensions and new sewage disposal works costing £150,000 which was prepared by the Council's Consultant Engineer has been approved in principle by the Council. The Engineer is proceeding with a scheme for the sewerage of Copster Green and for the construction of a new sewage disposal works for the treatment of sewage from Billington, Copster Green, Langho, Langho Colony and a part of Wilpshire. The proposals include the provision of sewers for 40 new houses at Brockhall Institution and part of the hospital buildings. The estimated cost of this scheme is now £66,000.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of household refuse, night soil and salvage in almost the whole of the District was continued by the Council's own men and vehicles, the only parts which are now done by the contract system are those where the bad condition of the roads prohibits the use of motor vehicles.

The Cleansing and Salvage service was carried out with extreme difficulty owing to the use of vehicles which, under normal standards, had exceeded their life. The continual breakdowns arising from the use of second hand vehicles expose the service to criticism. Although two Dennis refuse collecting vehicles were ordered early in the year 1947 it was not until the month of October that the first vehicle was delivered.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

The licences which were in operation at the end of 1947, were renewed. There is a considerable number of various types of moveable dwellings which have in the past been stationed in various parts of the District for which no application for licence has been made. A close watch is being kept on the position and no vans and sheds other than those already known have been erected. Some of these were intended in the first instance as week-end huts but a number are now occupied permanently. It is hoped that these can be dealt with as soon as the housing situation is alleviated.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Two observations of Factory Chimneys were carried out and no flagrant emission of black or other smoke was noted.

RODENT CONTROL.

A Rodent Operative is employed on search for rats and treatment of infestations found. The number of infestations dealt with during the year was as under:—

Business Premises	No.
J. Dugdale & Sons	2
Cherry Tree Machine Co.	1
Riviera Cafe	2
Shaws Brickworks	1
Sun Paper Mill	2
Aspin (Confectioner)	1
Co-operative Stores, Cherry Tree	1
Fletcher's Provisions Shop	1
Oaks Farm, Clayton-le-Dale	1
Private Dwelling Houses	10

The banks of the Leeds and Liverpool canal were treated during the year. The Council's refuse tips were treated four times and infestation kept to a minimum.

Two treatments of the Council's sewers and sewage works were carried out. On the second half-yearly treatment of sewers 217 sewer manholes were baited 3 times on alternate days, the third bait being poison bait. The number of manholes where prebait had been completely taken was 13 and where there appeared to be a partial take was 106. It would appear from the results that Cherry Tree is the only parish where the sewers are badly infested. This is no doubt caused by the densely populated area together with industrial buildings and the proximity of the Leeds and Liverpool canal.

No charge was made for the treatment of rats on private dwelling houses, the Ministry of Agriculture paying 50% of the cost and the Council 50%. A charge covering the whole of the cost of the work plus 10% for administrative expenses was made for the work done on business premises. The Ministry of Agriculture contribute a 30% grant towards the cost of sewer treatment.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply

Dairy farms continued to receive a high priority in inspections throughout the year and a number of dairy farms were completely reconditioned. Cleanliness of dairy premises has not yet reached the pre-war standard, the chief reasons given by the farmers being that they are either short of staff or cannot obtain suitably trained staff or that they are short of water. In many cases, it is believed these statements are genuine, particularly on the question of water supplies which in many cases are poor.

145 samples of milk were taken and submitted for the Methylene Blue Reductase and B. Coli tests. 97 were completely satisfactory, the remaining 48 failed to pass the tests. In all cases whether the sample was satisfactory or otherwise, the farmer was informed of the result of the analysis and after an unsatisfactory sample the farmer producing the milk was given a list of various measures to which he should pay attention, and in most cases visited within a short time.

As in previous years, it appears that most of the unsatisfactory samples were caused by imperfect sterilisation of utensils or the milk not being sufficiently cooled usually owing either to the high temperature of the cooling water or the absence of a proper cooler.

The number of dairy farms in the districts are as under :—

No. of "Non-designated" dairy farms	...	...	...	...	...	163
No. of "Accredited" dairy farms	...	...	...	...	...	33
No. of "Tuberculin Tested" dairy farms	...	...	...	...	...	20
Approx. number of cows at dairy farms in the district	...	...	...	...	...	1968
No. of retail purveyors other than cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	...	19
No. of inspections during the year	...	...	...	...	...	263

Ice Cream

There are 2 manufacturers and 7 retailers' premises on the Council's register. The 2 manufacturers prepare a cold-mix product and in each case the premises are far from satisfactory. The premises are not owner occupied and there are no external buildings or space for such available. 3 samples of ice cream were taken during the year and the results were as follows :—

Producer		Grade I		Satisfactory.
Retailer		Grade II		Satisfactory.
Retailer		Grade IV		Unsatisfactory.

Meat and other Foods

Every effort was made to inspect all the animals slaughtered within the district immediately after slaughter. Most of these were killed at a licenced Slaughter House, which is attached to the farm buildings of an Institution within the District, but considerable numbers of pigs and sheep were slaughtered occasionally under Ministry

of Food licences at various farms and other premises. It was not necessary to seize any articles of food, any which were found to be diseased or unsound were readily surrendered by the owners.

Regular inspections were carried out at Butcher's Shops.

The number of animals inspected were as follows:—

<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Swine</i>
30	32	60	70

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Vital Statistics for the Year 1948.

Population—Registrar-General's Estimate, mid-1948		12,700
	Total	Males Females
Live Births—Legitimate	139	64 75
Illegitimate	—	— —
Total	139	64 75
	Blackburn R.D.C.	England & Wales
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population, mid-1948	10.9	17.9
	Total	Males Females
Still Births	1	1 —
Rate per 1,000 estimated population	0.42	
	Total	Males Females
Deaths	127	75 52
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	10.8	
Deaths from puerperal causes—		
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis		Nil
Other maternal causes		Nil
Total Maternal mortality		Nil
Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births		Nil
Death rate of infants under one year of age—		
All infants per 1,000 live births		34
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		14
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		18
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		Nil

VITAL STATISTICS (continued)

	Per 1,000 of estimated population			Maternal Mortality rate		
	Death-rate from			Rate		
Year —	Live birth rate	Crude death rate	tuberculosis of the respiratory system	Death-rate from cancer	Per 1,000 (live and one-year still) births	total under per 1,000 live births
Mean of 5 years, 1943—1947 ...	12.6 ...	11.8 ...	0.25 ...	1.89 ...	3.99 ...	3.86 ... 32
1947	13.4 ...	12.4 ...	0.31 ...	1.74 ...	Nil ...	Nil ... 29
1948	10.9 ...	10.0 ...	0.23 ...	1.41 ...	Nil ...	Nil ... 14
Increase or decrease in 1948 on:						
5 years' average, 1943—1947	— 1.7 ...	— 1.8 ...	— 0.02 ...	— 0.48 ...	— 3.99 ...	— 3.86 ... — 18
Previous year	— 2.5 ...	— 2.4 ...	— 0.08 ...	— 0.33 ...	Nil ...	Nil ... — 15

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death							Males	Females	Total
All Causes							75	52	127
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid						—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever						1	—	1
3.	Scarlet Fever						—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough						—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria						—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...						2	1	3
7.	Other Tuberculosis Diseases						—	—	—
8.	Syphilitic Diseases						—	—	—
9.	Influenza						—	—	—
10.	Measles						—	—	—
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis						—	—	—
12.	Acute infectious encephalitis						—	—	—
13.	Cancer						9	9	18
14.	Diabetes						3	—	3
15.	Heart Diseases						24	19	43
16.	Other diseases of circulatory system ...						2	2	4
17.	Bronchitis						8	1	9
18.	Pneumonia						4	2	6
19.	Other respiratory diseases						1	1	2
20.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum						1	—	1
21.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)						—	—	—
22.	Appendicitis						1	—	1
23.	Other digestive diseases						—	1	1
24.	Nephritis						2	—	2
25.	Puerperal Sepsis						—	—	—
26.	Other maternal causes						—	—	—
27.	Premature birth						—	—	—
28.	Congenital Debility, birth injury, Malformations, etc.						—	—	—
29.	Suicide						—	—	—
30.	Road traffic accidents						—	1	1
31.	Other violent causes						3	3	6
32.	Intra Cranial Lesions						6	7	13
33.	All other causes						8	5	13

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	Total cases at		Under											65 and over	Cases admitted to Hospital
	all ages	1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65			
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	42	—	—	—	3	3	15	11	7	3	—	—	—	—	15
Measles	47	4	4	3	4	12	19	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	17	—	1	3	2	2	4	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	47	—	1	1	—	—	14	3	4	14	6	4	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	21	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	3	4	7	2	1	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	177	4	6	7	10	17	52	22	16	22	14	6	1	1	16

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
35—45	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—55	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—65	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	9	3	0	6	3	1	0	0
	12		6		4		0	

No cases of Tuberculosis which had not been notified came to light.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following table shows the number of children immunised during the year:—

Ages Years	No. of children completely immunised		No. of children who ceased to attend before completion of the course		Type of Prophylactic used
Under 1	14	...	—	...	A.P.T. Wellcome
1—2	3	...	—	...	
2—3	2	...	—	...	
3—4	—	...	—	...	
4—5	1	...	—	...	
6 and over	—	...	—	...	
Total	20	...	0	...	

WATER SUPPLIES.

PARISH.	From Public Mains				From Private Supplies	
	Direct to houses		By means of standpipe		e.g. wells, springs, etc.	
	No. of dwelling-houses	No. of population	No. of dwelling-houses	No. of population	No. of dwelling-houses	No. of population
1. Balderstone	76	321	—	—	42	144
2. Billington	560	2360	—	—	55	217
3. Clayton-le-Dale ...	173	529	—	—	32	93
4. Dinckley	22	75	—	—	3	14
5. Eccleshill	80	275	—	—	22	84
6. Livesey	721	1996	—	—	80	313
7. Mellor	254	1021	23	96	134	521
8. Osbaldeston	49	126	—	—	23	83
9. Pleasington	120	431	—	—	52	190
10. Ramsgreave	208	560	—	—	70	294
11. Salesbury	110	328	—	—	18	66
12. Tockholes	—	—	—	—	142	496
13. Wilpshire	328	1513	—	—	31	115
14. Yate and Pickup Bank ...	30	128	—	—	77	311
Total—						
Whole District ...	2731	9663	23	96	781	2941

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Privy Middens	Nil
Pail Closets	688
Ashpits	Nil
No. of houses with Fresh Water Closets	2708
No. of houses with Waste Water Closets	77
No. of houses with Moveable Ashbins	3176
Pail Closets converted into Fresh Water Closets	
With grant from the Council	18

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR IN CONNECTION WITH SANITARY AND OTHER WORK.

Inspections under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	427
Inspections under the Housing Act	...	...	...	...	1019
Inspections and revisits to Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	28
Visits to Infectious Disease Cases	...	...	...	...	50
Rooms Disinfected	...	...	...	...	33
Inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	...	263
Inspections of Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	44
Inspections of Meat Shops	...	...	...	...	22
Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	21
Inspections of Provisions Shops	...	...	...	...	95
Inspections of Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	6
Inspections of Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	8
Inspections of Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	...	3
Inspections of Factories (other than Bakehouses)	...	...	...	...	12
Inspections in connection with Scavenging Schemes	...	...	...	...	606
Inspections of Drains	...	...	...	...	71
Samples of Water Taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	25
Inspections under Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	7
Inspections in connection with rodent control	...	...	...	...	36
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	2
Other Visits interviewing owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	22
Total					2800

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Waiting List.

Applicants to 31st December, 1948	...	...		234
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Local Authority Houses.

Position at 1st January, 1948

Prewar—80

Postwar—Nil.

Post War Housing Programme, Total Proposed Houses	206
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Houses erected by Local Authority during 1948		26
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Houses under construction by Local Authority at end of 1948	...	...	...	...	...	44
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Houses erected by private enterprise.

Post war to January, 1948	...	...	...	...	...	23
Completed during 1948	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	142
Number of inspections made for the purpose	231
Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations. 1925 to 1932	984
Number of inspections made for the purpose	1019
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	212
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	738

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	26
---	----

Action of statutory powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	1
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	17
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	11
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

Housing Act, 1936, Part IV, Overcrowding:—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	7
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(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	15
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	42
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

The survey of working class dwellings was completed in 1948 and the following are the complete figures for the survey:—

No. of inhabited houses (all classes) at 31st December, 1947	3509	
No. of working-class houses	2673	% of total insp'd.

No. of working-class houses:—

1. fit in all respects	295	11.04
2. requiring minor repairs	847	31.69
3. requiring structural alteration	737	27.57
4. occupied by agricultural workers and requiring structural alteration ...	343	12.83
5. unfit for habitation	451	16.87

No. of working-class houses about which free circulation of air is retarded	462
No. with inadequate through or cross ventilation	77
No. which are badly lighted	777
No. with insufficient height in the rooms	443
No. not connected to a Public Sewer	834
No. not having a fresh water closet	807
No. without sufficient washing accommodation	673
No. without sufficient cooking accommodation	109
No. without an adequate pantry	1712
No. with insanitary or defective sink	286
No. not having a Public water supply laid on	505
No. not having a piped supply of hot water	1061
No. not having a fixed bath	1357
No. being in an unsatisfactory state of repair	842
No. showing dampness within the house	1485
No. not having an adequate system of artificial lighting ...	259
No. not having separate access from staircase or landing for each bedroom	304
No. of overcrowded houses (total, years 1945—1948)	25

MEAT AND OFFAL SURRENDERED.

Beef—

5 Carcases and offals (cows)	Tuberculosis	1848-lbs.
1 Carcase and offal	Asphyxiation	168-lbs.
2 Livers	1 Flukes	
	1 Tuberculosis	28-lbs.
Parts of 7 Livers	Flukes	64-lbs.
7 Heads	Tuberculosis	191-lbs.
6 Lungs	Tuberculosis	63-lbs.
4 Mesenteries	Tuberculosis	21-lbs.

Mutton—

Parts of 2 Livers	Flukes	2-lbs.
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Veal—

2 Carcases	1 Immaturity	
	1 Oedema	77-lbs.

Pork—

3 Heads	Tuberculosis	52-lbs.
1 Liver	Infarcts	4-lbs.

2518-lbs.

OTHER FOODS SURRENDERED:

Decomposition—

Gooseberry Pulp	168-lbs.
Jam	28-lbs.
Ham	13-lbs.
Sausage	12-lbs.
Corned Beef	12-lbs.
Mixed Pickles	11200-lbs.

Blown Cans, etc.—

Apricot pulp (1 can)	10-lbs.
Pineapple pulp (345 cans)	647-lbs.

12,090-lbs.

Public Cleansing.

The following figures summarise the amount of refuse collected by direct labour and contractors during the year:—

Visits to Premises	Pans Emptied	Bins Emptied	Loads	T. C. Q. Estimated
123,415	27,761	95,654	1,703	3760 6 1

Salvage.

The following weights of salvaged materials were collected and sold during the year:—

Material	Quantity					Value.		
	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.		£	s.	d.
Paper	58	18	3	0	...	397	12	11
Kitchen Waste	58	8	1	0	...	87	12	1
Bones		3	0	6	...		17	8
Textiles	4	10	1	19	...	111	3	11
Copper			2	22	...		1	19 0
Brass			3	16	...		1	13 11
Aluminium		1	2	26	...		3	5 11
Lead			2	24	...		2	6 5
Iron	2	18	2	0	...		5	17 0
Bottles and Jars	3	13	0	0	...		34	5 8
Carriage on Paper	—				...		29	9 5
Carriage on Kitchen Waste	—				...		29	4 0
Total	128	16	0	1	...	705	7	11

BOARD OF TRADE SUBSIDIES.

Amount allowed on collection of Kitchen Waste—	£	s.	d.
58 tons 8-cwts. 1-qr. at 17s.6d. per ton	51	2	2
Waste Paper—			
Increased Collection Allowance, January to June ...	11	7	9
Increased Collection Allowance, July to December ...	2	0	3
Total Subsidies	64	10	2
Profit on Dustbins for the year	18	12	6
Profit on Sanitary Pails	3	8	10

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1948 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF BLACKBURN IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	8	18	1		1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies						
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order 1938	2	28	15			2
(b) Others... ..	3					3
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	4					4
TOTAL		36	33	1		

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	3	3				5
Overcrowding (S.2)	6						6
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	7						7
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	8						8
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	9						9
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) insufficient	10						10
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	11	2	2				11
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	12	1	1				12
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	13						13
TOTAL	60	6	6				60

